

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on May 5, 2004 the drawing were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a); claim 1 was objected to; claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wakabayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,097,285); claims 1, 2 and 5-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Teruo (JP-174893); claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakabayashi et. al in view of Aoki (U.S. Patent No. 5,438,359); and claims 4, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Teruo in view of Schrock et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,923,908).

In accordance with the foregoing, FIG. 4 has been amended and claims 1, 2 and 5 have been amended.

Claims 1-11 are pending in the subject application.

Wabayashi et al. discusses a camera having a self-timer in FIG. 1. In the self-timer photographing, when the self-timer button is depressed twice, the self-timer switch is closed twice, indicating continuous photographing of two frames with the self-timer. When the self-timer is closed twice, the number "2" of depressions of the self-timer button is stored in the memory. In response to the closing of the self-timer switch, a display unit shows the self-timer mode indicating to the photographer the setting of the multiple self-timer mode (see column 2, lines 49-58).

Teruo discusses an image pick-up device having a white-balance switch for two different systems, a change-over switch and a setting switch (see page 2 of the translation). The image pick-up device of Teruo further discusses a process of changing setting modes and tracking modes in relation to white-balance processing in the image pick-up device. (see pages 3 and 4 of the translation).

Aoki discusses an electronic camera system using IC memory card and a computer, wherein the computer is electrically connected to the camera via the IC memory card through a data writing/reading circuit and a interface circuit of the camera (see column 1, lines 40-64). A power circuit of the camera is supplied with power from the battery when the camera is not connected to the computer and when the camera is connected to the computer, the power supply is switched from the battery to the power source of the computer (see column 4, lines 6-20).

Schrock et al. discusses a camera with touch sensitive control, wherein when a user touches a shutter icon of a touch sensitive screen, a microprocessor checks focus range and exposure data (see column 4, lines 26-28). In addition, Shrock et al. discusses the user sliding

a finger from a first position to a second position and controlling vibration during picture taking (see Abstract).

Both Wakabayashi et al. and Teruo fail to discuss “a control unit monitoring a button for instructing an execution of an image photographing process, detecting depression of the button, starting up said timer if said button is depressed continuously for a first predetermined period of time or longer after detecting the depression of the button, and executing the image photographing process after said timer has counted a second predetermined period of time” as recited in claim 1.

Although the above comments are specifically directed to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the comments would be helpful in understanding differences of various other rejected claims over the cited reference.

The combination of Wakabayashi et al. and Aoki fails to discuss all of the features recited in claim 1 from which claim 3 depends.

The combination of Teruo and Shrock et al. fails to discuss all of the features as recited in claim 1 as mentioned above from which claim 4 depends and the features as recited in claims 10 and 11.

Each of dependent claims 2-4, 7 and 11 recite patentably distinguishing limitations of their own. For example, claim 7 recites “wherein the image photographing process is executed immediately when the depressed button is released before the first count time elapses”.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is respectfully requested.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Docket No.: 1046.1227

Serial No. 09/737,588

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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FIG.4

